of the Executive Committee of the erstwhile ISI on behalf of the Executive Committee as no meeting of the Executive Committee was envisaged to be convened before 1.4.1987, when the BIS Act was to become effective. His terms and conditions of appointment were subsequently approved by the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Quick redressal of the grievances of employees

2220. SHRI LAXMI NARAIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that normally the conciliation proceedings in Labour Commissioner's office take nearly one year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that after referring a matter to Industrial Tribunal/Labour Court, at least three years are taken in expediting an Industrial Dispute, whether it concerns the re-instatement of an employee or the general demands; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take for quick redressal of the grievances of employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, disposal of cases is slowed down because of frequent adjournments sought by the parties concerned. With a view to ensuring speedy disposal of cases, the Industrial Disputes Act has been amended stipulating that the authority making a reference of an industrial dispute shall specify the period within which the Tribunal or the Labour Court shall submit its award. In respect of industrial disputes connected with an individual workman and also in respect of applications under Section 33(5) and Section 33C(2) it has also been specified that these will be disposed of within three months. The Industrial Disputes (Central) Rules, 1957 have also been amended to provide time frame for different stages to ensure speedy disposal.

Involvement of voluntary agencies in drought relief operation

2221. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether drought has taken heavy toll of life in various places in Rajasthan, including Bikaner; and

(b) whether Government propose to involve all voluntary agencies in Rajasthan such as Urmul for giving dedicated services and operation in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to take relief measures in the wake of drought, However, States have been advised to involve voluntary agencies to the extent possible. The State Governments are free to take necessary decision in this regard.

Broadcast/telecast of programmes relating to SAARC countries

2222. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement was recently signed by the SAARC member Countries to the effect that radio and television programmes relating to these countries would be telecast and broadcast every month;